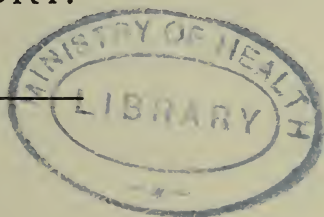


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ALTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL  
REPORT.



1948.



ALTON,  
HANTS,  
June, 1949.

To : THE ALTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The following is my Report on this District for the year ended 31st December, 1948 :

The area of the District is (in acres)	...	...	65,526
The population, 1931 census (including 4,562 military)			20,455
The population estimated in 1948 (civilians only)	...	...	19,940
The number of inhabited houses is	...	...	5,460
The Rateable value is	...	...	£150,721
The sum represented by a Penny Rate is	...	...	£618

According to the figures supplied to me by the Registrar General, the Births and Deaths are as follows :—

	Total	M.	F.
<i>Live Births</i> —Legitimate	419	218	201
Illegitimate	38	25	13
<i>Still Births</i> —Legitimate	8	3	5
Illegitimate	1	1	—

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population — 22.9

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births — 23.3

*Deaths.*— The total number of deaths belonging to this district was 230 ; of these 88 died outside my district.

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population — 11.5

Deaths from Puerperal causes ... Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year... ... 11

Deaths from Cancer ... ... 39

Deaths from Measles ... ... Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough ... ... Nil

Deaths from Diarrhœa ... ... 2

Deaths over 70 years of age numbered 124, of these 55 were over 80 and 11 were over 90 years of age.

### General Provisions of Health Services for the Area :

The Public Officers are :—

(1) *Medical Officer of Health*—Part-time Officer.

(2) *Chief Sanitary Inspector & and Building Surveyor*—Whole-time Officer. He holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and is an Associate Member of the Institute of British Engineers.

(3) *Additional Sanitary Inspector Assistant Building Surveyor*—Whole-time Officer.

(4) *Additional Sanitary Inspector*—Whole-time Officer.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area :—

*Water.* Piped main supplies in the various Parishes of the District are as follows :

(1) Wey Valley Water Co.—

Bentley	Binsted	Chawton
Farringdon	Froyle	Grayshott
Headley	Kingsley	Selborne
Whitehill		

(2) Mid-Wessex Water Co.—

Bentworth	Lasham	Medstead
Shalden	Wield	

(3) Private Estate Supplies—

East Tisted	West Tisted
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Extensions of mains have been made during the year in Whitehill (2) and Shalden.

Work on the extension of mains to provide supplies in the Parishes of Four Marks and Ropley continued during the year, and a number of connections were made.

The mains supplies in the area have been satisfactory both in quality and quantity ; samples of water from main supplies are taken by the Water Undertakers themselves for analysis. Other domestic supplies in the District are from wells, underground rainwater storage tanks and springs.

### Water Supplies from Public Mains.

Parish	Direct Supplies No. of houses.	From Standpipes No. of houses.	Population supplied direct.	Population supplied from standpipes.
Bentley	193	6	672	21
Bentworth	90	54	315	190
Binsted	216	20	756	70
Chawton	75	0	266	0
East Tisted	0	0	0	0
Farringdon	87	30	308	105
Four Marks	0	0	0	0
Froyle	162	0	567	0
Grayshott	386	10	1351	35
Headley	633	15	1912	52
Kingsley	64	0	224	0
Lasham	34	6	120	20
Medstead	76	34	266	120
Newton Valence	13	0	46	0
Ropley	39	0	139	0
Selborne	265	5	924	17
Shalden	42	29	150	98
West Tisted	0	0	0	0
Whitehill	382	12	1337	42
Wield	32	13	112	42
Worldham	4	0	14	0

## Sewerage and Drainage.

*Sewerage.* Part of the Parish of Bentley is sewered, the effluent being treated by broad-land irrigation.

The Temporary Housing Site of 50 Bungalows at Lindford in the Parish of Whitehill is served by a sewer laid to discharge into the Military Treatment Works at Bordon.

Schemes have been prepared for sewerage areas of the Parishes of Bentworth, Binsted (Rowledge-Bucks Horn Oak village), Chawton, East Tisted, Farringdon, Lasham, Medstead, Newton Valence, Ropley, Selborne (village), Shalden, Whitehill (Greatham), and Wield; also for a further extension in the Parish of Bentley.

In addition schemes are ready for the Parishes of Grayshott, Headley and Whitehill.

*Drainage.* There have been only minor changes affecting Closet Accommodation throughout the District during the year, due to the installation of individual septic tank systems.

*Meat & other Foods.* Under existing Ministry of Food centralised slaughtering, there are no slaughterhouses operating in the District.

Routine visits and inspections of shops and food premises have been made and quantities of varied foodstuffs have been condemned, on surrender, as unfit for human consumption.

*National Assistance Act, 1948, Sec. 47.* The Council found it necessary to take action, in one case, under this Act. The person, a male, was removed voluntarily.

*Salvage & Scavenging.* Collections of salvage (including tins and the like) are made fortnightly in two Parishes, Grayshott and Whitehill, and monthly throughout the remainder of the District.

In addition, full refuse collections are undertaken in four defined areas of the Parish of Whitehill, fortnightly.

A general scheme for full refuse collection throughout the whole of the District has been approved by the Council and will be put into operation as soon as the necessary vehicles are acquired.

Nightsoil collections are made twice weekly in defined areas of the Parishes of Grayshott and Whitehill.

During the latter part of the year, the Council inaugurated a scheme for the emptying of cesspools throughout the whole of the District.

All collections of salvage, refuse, nightsoil and cesspool contents, are carried out by the Council's own vehicles and staff.

*Nuisances.* Routine inspections have been carried out throughout the District and nuisances arising have been abated satisfactorily.

*Housing.* House-to-house inspections under the Rural Housing Survey continued during the year.

Number of inspections made during the year	611
Total number of inspections made up to 31-12-48	3,302

*Hop Pickers' Accommodation.* Routine inspections of hop pickers' accommodation were made during the year.

Preliminary discussions were made with Growers with a view to the provision of additional accommodation for the ensuing year.

*Milk Supply.* Inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds have been made ; new Producers have been added to the Register and the premises, where necessary, have been brought up to the required standard.

*Overcrowding.* Cases of overcrowding have been dealt with to bring about improvements, consideration of such cases being taken in the allocation of new dwellings erected by the Council.

*Moveable Dwellings.* Visits and inspections have been made of such dwellings and sites and the requisite licences issued.

*Factories.* Inspections under the Factories Act, 1937, have been made as follows :—

Number of factories on register	...	90
Number of inspections during the year	...	181
Number of cases in which defects were found		7
Number of defects remedied	...	7

### **Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.**

Measles and Whooping Cough were prevalent during the early part of the year.

There were 114 cases of Measles and 39 cases of Whooping Cough.

There were 23 cases of Scarlet Fever, all of a mild type, scattered over the district.

With very few exceptions all the schoolchildren have been inoculated against Diphtheria and a large number of children between the ages of 1 and 5 years have been done.

There were no cases of Diphtheria in the District.

352 children under the age of 5 years were inoculated during the year and 789 schoolchildren, 1,141 in all.

		Total cases notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	23	15	—
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	13	9	13

There was one case of Cerebro-spinal Fever and one case of Polio Encephalitis.

*Cancer.* There were 39 deaths from Cancer.

*Scarlet Fever.*

	2	5	9	3	4
Age Groups	1 yr.	5 yrs.	10 yrs.	15 yrs.	20 & over.

*Prevention of Blindness.* No cases were notified of ophthalmia neonatorum.

*Tuberculosis.* New cases and mortality during 1948 :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
25	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	2	4	1	1	—	1	—	—
45	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
TOTALS	8	8	3	3	2	1	2	—

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

*Scabies.* During 1948 seven families, comprising 9 adults and 20 children, were treated for Scabies at the Joint Isolation Hospital. All other verminous cases were treated at the General Hospital, Anstey Road.

I should like to add that your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Bennett, has rendered very valuable services during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) H. CURRER WILLIAMS,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

